

Abstract

A tube handling device for inserting tubes into a tube filling machine, relocating tubes within the tube filling machine and/or removing tubes from the tube filling machine, comprises at least one movable carrier having a plurality of tube grippers disposed in at least one gripper row. An adjusting device is disposed on the carrier comprising at least one drive device whose drive mechanism can be translated into a relative motion of the tube grippers along the gripper row using a transfer device. The tube grippers can be adjusted using the adjusting device between a first relative position in which they have a first predetermined mutual distance, and at least one second relative position in which they have a second predetermined mutual distance. The transfer device is thereby formed by scissor action arms which can be pulled apart and pushed together using the drive device. The drive device is formed by two pneumatic cylinders oriented parallel in the longitudinal direction of the gripper row and acting in opposite directions.